

**ABSTRACT****METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DETECTING CRACKS IN OPTICAL DISCS**

A device for detecting a crack in an optical disc including a transmitter to propagate an optical signal through the optical disc and a receiver to detect the propagated signal. From the pattern generated from the received signal, a microcontroller makes an analysis to determine if a crack is present on the optical disc. The method may be incorporated into a conventional disc drive as a new crack detection mechanism.

**FIGURE 1B**